

SHM path integral

Start with a hammy:

$$H(P, Q) = \frac{P^2}{2m} + \frac{m\omega^2 Q^2}{2} \quad (1)$$

Interested in ground state to ground state, using:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 0|0\rangle &= \langle 0|q_n\rangle \langle q_{n-1}|q_{n-2}\rangle \dots \langle q_1|0\rangle \\ &\Downarrow \\ \langle 0|0\rangle &= \int \mathcal{D}p\mathcal{D}q \exp \left[i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt (p\dot{q} - (1-i\epsilon)H + fq) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

applying $(1-i\epsilon)$ on H leads to:

$$\begin{aligned} m\omega^2 &\rightarrow (1-i\epsilon)m\omega^2 \\ &\text{and} \\ m^{-1} &\rightarrow (1-i\epsilon)m^{-1} \\ &\hookrightarrow \frac{(1-i\epsilon)(1+i\epsilon)}{m(1+i\epsilon)} = \frac{1+i\epsilon-i\epsilon+\mathcal{O}(2)}{m(1+i\epsilon)} \\ &\Rightarrow m \rightarrow (1+i\epsilon)m \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

subbing back into 2

$$\langle 0|0\rangle = \int \mathcal{D}p\mathcal{D}q \exp \left[i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \left(p\dot{q} - \frac{P^2}{(1+i\epsilon)2m} - \frac{1-i\epsilon}{2}m\omega^2 Q^2 + fq \right) \right] \quad (4)$$

$$\int \frac{d\omega}{\tau} \frac{e^{-i\omega(t-t')}}{-2i\omega\epsilon} \quad (5)$$